



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Rick Snyder, Governor  
Shelly Edgerton, Director

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## **Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan Statement on Criminal Charges Against Former Executive Director**

As Commissioners of the Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan (HLCOM) we take our responsibility very seriously, and hold ourselves and all government leaders to the highest standards of ethical behavior. Early in 2015, we took our concerns related to the operation of HLCOM to the executive leadership of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. The Department took our mutual concerns to the Michigan State Police, filing a complaint and initiating the investigation that led to the charges announced recently against Ms. Mason. We appreciate the Department's swift response and the fact that our concerns were taken seriously. We have full faith in the competence and professionalism of the Michigan State Police and the Attorney General's office to bring this situation to an appropriate resolution. We also have complete trust in the fairness of the criminal justice system and that Ms. Mason will have a fair day in court.

In the meantime, HLC remains focused on our mission. We have a new executive director, new Commission leadership, and we are actively working on a number of vibrant new initiatives. This is a difficult time for our community, and we are committed to continuing our work with our partners in government to advance the interests of all residents of the state of Michigan.

